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Dear Enfield Local Plans

On behalf of Geoff Strawbridge, CAMRA's Regional London Director and myself, Enfield's Pub Protection Officer, we wish to make the following formal comments regarding your [proposed local plan policies](#).

We very much welcome Policy CL6 but we do recommend some minor amendments.

The minimum three-year marketing period is a particular strength. However, the policy should specify that that the pub must have been marketed at a price reflecting the 'going rate' for pubs of that type in the area to be effective. Failure to include this clause will give rise to risk of the building being marketed for a higher figure that makes pub use economically unviable.

Policy CL6 should also refer to London Plan Policy HC7, stating that any development effecting public houses should also be compliant with it.

We welcome reference to public houses in Policy DME9, however the policy should require a noise assessment where residential development is likely to impact the operation of existing public houses and nightclubs.

We strongly reject the IIA finding, 2.91, which states without evidence that the provision of public houses and nightclubs may encourage residents and visitors to lead unhealthy lifestyles. In 2016 CAMRA commissioned research from Professor Robin Dunbar of Oxford University on the role of pubs at the heart of their community. The report found that pubs play a key role in facilitating friendships and that those who have a local pub are happier, more trusting and better connected to their community, many also provide healthy home cooked food commensurate to any restaurant. [Click Here](#) to read the report. It sets out that moderate levels of drinking have been associated with improved physical health and that the absence of public houses can cause unhealthy drinking patterns in homes. Removing public houses does not remove alcohol from society but the provision of regulated public houses provides people access to regulated environments for drinking and socialising. There is therefore no evidence that having public houses encourages unhealthy patterns of drinking and poor health. We therefore recommend that reference to public houses is removed entirely from IIA finding 2.91.

Thank you for your attention and understanding, and congratulations again on all the progress you have made.